

# The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer  
For the First Sunday after Trinity  
June 11 through June 18, 2023

**Catechesis Notes for the Week — Abraham believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness—**The righteousness of God is the death of Jesus that covers our sin with God’s forgiveness. The righteousness of God in Christ’s death was witnessed throughout the Old Testament Scriptures of the Law and the Prophets. “Abraham believed in the Lord, and [the Lord] accounted it [faith in the promise of salvation] to him for righteousness (Genesis 15:6). Out of this faith in the promise of salvation, Abraham declared to Isaac, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering” (Genesis 22:8). Out of this faith Moses preached to the children of Israel, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today” (Exodus 14:13). By the promise of the Gospel they were called to faith in the righteousness of Christ centuries before His death. Christ is the Lamb of God which God Himself provided for our salvation. Christ accomplished everything that was necessary for our salvation in His death upon the cross. God set forth Jesus as the propitiation for our sin—the true “mercy seat” or “place of forgiveness”—through His blood. This is why Jesus speaks to us of His blood in the Sacrament of the Altar, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” For the sake of Christ’s righteousness and in the forbearance of God, the Lord passed over the sins of the people of old that He might “be just” or “perform His righteousness” in the death of His Son, as He had promised in the Scriptures, and justify all sinners through faith in Him. The Word of God calls us to faith in Christ Jesus by whom we are justified or declared righteous as a free gift of God’s grace. Christ is the content of justifying faith. He is presented to us in the Word. God is just or righteous in Christ, because Christ has made full atonement for our sin in His death and has redeemed us from sin through the shedding of His blood. God is just or righteous in declaring us righteous for Jesus’ sake. The righteousness of God is received as a free gift of God’s grace through faith in Jesus and all that He has done for us. The object of saving or justifying faith is always and only Christ Jesus who suffered and died for us. Faith believes that Jesus is the righteousness of God and it is this righteousness alone that saves us from all sin and reconciles us to God. — Excerpted from *Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition*, p. 106e.

## The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

## Theme: Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart!

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Apostles’ Creed

### Verse: Genesis 15:6

[Abraham] believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

### Psalms 13 and/or the appointed daily psalms listed below.

Prayer on the Psalm: Help us, O Lord, that we may not despair in the day of want and trouble, nor in the day of plenty abuse Your gifts or set our hearts upon things temporal, but in true faith and love wait patiently for another life, which, when all earthly griefs are past, You will give to all who believe in Christ, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	65	66	68	71	73	75, 76	78	80
Evening	63, 64	67, 70	69	72	74	77	79	81

### Bible Readings for the Week:

	Bible Narrative	Second Reading
Sunday	<b>Trinity 1:</b> The Rich Man and Lazarus—Luke 16:19-31 <b>St. Barnabas, Apostle:</b> Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3	
Monday	Love Your Enemies—Matthew 5:38-48	Isaiah 10:1-4, 20-23
Tuesday	The Lord’s Prayer—Matthew 6:1-18	Isaiah 11:1-10
Wednesday	Lay Up for Yourselves Treasure in Heaven—Matthew 6:19-34	Isaiah 12:1-6
Thursday	Jesus Is the Narrow Way—Matthew 7:1-14	Isaiah 13:9-13
Friday	The Wise Man Builds His House on the Rock—Matthew 7:15-29	Isaiah 14:12-21
Saturday	Jesus Cleanses a Leper—Matthew 8:1-4	Isaiah 17:7-11

**The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Part III**

<p><i>How can water do such great things?</i>          Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.          For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism.          But with the word of God, it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:</p>	Third Grade +
<p><b>He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,</b></p>	Kindergarten +
<p><b>whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,</b></p>	First Grade +
<p><b>so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. [Titus 3:5-8]</b></p>	Second Grade +

**Prayers: The Collects for the Week and In Our Prayers this Week**

**Collect for the First Sunday After Trinity**

*O God, the strength of all who trust in You, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing, grant us Your grace to keep Your commandments that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**Collect for St. Barnabas, Apostle (June 11)**

*Almighty God, Your faithful servant Barnabas sought not his own renown but gave generously of his life and substance for the encouragement of the apostles and their ministry. Grant that we may follow his example in lives given to charity and the proclamation of the Gospel; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**In Our Prayers this Week** (include the petitions below followed by the Lord's Prayer)

**Baptismal Anniversaries:** James Miller, Lisa LaFore (6/12); Joshua Franklin, William Haga (6/13); Jennifer Clark, Marcy Gall, Sharon Martin, Hannah Gierach, Christine Meyle (6/15).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Paul & Sue Kachelmeyer (6/11); Rev. Brennick & Bethany Christiansen (6/13).

**The Sick:** Jon Bruss undergoing a cardiac procedure this week; Andy Helwig (friend of Polly Joubert and Jon & Marty Bruss) hospitalized, awaiting liver transplant; Wally Schneider hospitalized for heart tests; David Berger recovering from a broken hip and shoulder after a fall; Jennifer Johnson recovering from surgery; Beth (niece and goddaughter of Donna Lovas) recovering from colon surgery; Donna Aufdemberge with ongoing health issues; Don Fell in rehab; Walt Dissen in rehab with long road to recovery; Mark Gretzinger undergoing medical testing for undiagnosed illness; Kathleen Hetzel, Tanya Knoblock, Dennis Michaelis, Gabby Hartwig, Peyton Locklair, Kathy Miller, and Heather Peters in cancer treatment.

**Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism.**

**Hymn of the Week**

**"To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray"**

**Looking forward to the Second Sunday after Trinity**

**June 18, 2023**

**Hymns: 909, 510, 637, 623, 832, 643**

**Proverbs 9:1-10:** Repentance, which is a word describing the character of saving faith, involves a "change of mind" or a "different way of believing" about oneself and one's Lord. It involves the letting go of the self as god because of the belief in one's sin, and the laying hold of Christ as God because He is the only Savior. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

**Ephesians 2:13-22:** St. Paul teaches concerning the Church and the fellowship of Jew and Gentile together. The Jews and the Gentiles were formerly estranged from one another, but by the blood of Christ the two who were at enmity are now reconciled to each other by the forgiveness of sins. This reconciliation of grace that we share from our Lord has broken down both the wall of partition separating sinners from each other and the wall of partition separating us from God.

**Luke 14:15-24:** The parable of the Great Supper teaches us that the call of the Gospel to receive salvation in Christ is like an invitation which is rejected because people have "more important things to do." These "things" are really the false faiths of the flesh. They represent the idolatry of the sinful heart that believes in works or any other "god" for its life and salvation. If those who rejected would have believed in their true need for God's salvation, they would have received the invitation with joy. Those who are helpless and needy receive the invitation and believe the Gospel. Those who believe they have no need reject the invitation and are excluded from salvation.